

05-R-0121

A RESOLUTION

BY COUNCILMEMBER MARY NORWOOD

**A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE USE OF
SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS FOR KNOWN CRACK
HOUSE LOCATIONS AND ILLEGAL DUMPING
SITES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

C.T. Martin

Whereas, the City of Atlanta is committed to improving the quality of life in the City's communities by eliminating crack houses and by aggressively enforcing the City's illegal dumping laws; and

Whereas, the City desires to eliminate illegal dumping, and crack houses, apartment units, and other locations that facilitate drug trafficking, promote crime within neighborhoods, and cause neighborhood disintegration and deterioration; and

Whereas, the Atlanta Police Department estimates that 75% of all drug-related arrests between April 2002 and April 2004 involved crack cocaine; and

Whereas, the Office of National Drug Control Policy's Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse estimates that 49.8% of all adult males arrested for drug violations in Atlanta in 2003 tested positive for cocaine; and

Whereas, there is a growing sense that public surveillance through the use of video cameras would deter lawbreakers from participating in criminal activities; and

Whereas, the use of video surveillance cameras would aid and assist law enforcement personnel in gathering intelligence, making arrests, and in forcing criminals from the surveillance areas and thereby eliminate crack houses and illegal dumping in the City of Atlanta.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES, as follows:

Section 1: Law enforcement personnel are hereby encouraged to use surveillance cameras in their policing efforts in the City of Atlanta in order to eliminate crack houses which foster illegal drug activities and to eliminate illegal dumping in the neighborhoods of the City.

Section 2: The installation of any such surveillance cameras shall be subject to the following conditions:

G-3

- (a) There must be support by a majority of the citizens in the affected neighborhood;
- (b) The neighborhood or business association must purchase or otherwise acquire the cameras;
- (c) The use of the cameras must be approved by the affected Neighborhood Planning Unit and the Zoning Review Board.
- (d) Persons residing within a 500 foot radius of the proposed location of the cameras must receive written notification prior to the installation of the surveillance camera(s); and
- (e) Public notice in the form of street signage advising the public as to the presence of the surveillance cameras must be posted.

Section 3: All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby rescinded.